

C 4411 (3) GRAYS THURROCK

GRAYS THURROCK
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE

Sanitary Inspector

For the Year ending 31st Dec., 1933.

GRAYS.

John Higgins, Printing Contractor.

1934

GRAYS THURROCK
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE

Sanitary Inspector

For the Year ending 31st Dec., 1933.

GRAYS.
John Higgins, Printing Contractor.

1934

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health:

W. T. G. BOUL, M.D., Ch.B. (Vict.), D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

CYRUS IVE, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (Resigned 31/12/1933).

K. N. MAWSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Appointed 1/1/1934).

Assistant Medical Officer of Health:

MAUDE BENNETT, L.R.C.P. & S. (Edin.), L.R.F.P. & S. (Glas.)

(Resigned May, 1933).

A. R. PARK, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.P.H. (Appointed June, 1933).

Orthopædic Surgeon (part-time):

B. WHITCHURCH HOWELL, F.R.C.S. (Eng.)

Obstetric Specialist (part-time):

ANDREW McALLISTER, F.R.C.S. (Eng.)

Dental Surgeon (part-time):

W. S. ROSE, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.)

Sanitary Inspector:

A. H. PLUMB, A.R.S.I.,

Inspector of Meat and other Foods. Rats Officer.

Orthopædic Masseuse (part-time):

Miss M. SCOTT, C.S.M.M.G. Certificates Medical Electricity.

Teachers' Diploma for Educational Gymnastics.

(Resigned September, 1933).

Miss M. E. WELLS, C.S.M.M.G. & M.E. (Appointed Sept., 1933).

Health Visitors:

Miss E. C. P. MILLER, S.R.N., General Training, Certified

Midwife, Certificate, Queen Victoria Nursing Institution,

New Health Visitors' Certificate.

Miss A. POLLEY, S.R.N., General Training, Certified Midwife,

Certificate, Queen Victoria Nursing Institution, Health Visitors'

Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute.

Chief Clerk: R. C. GILBERT.

Clerical Assistant: Miss D. LAYZELL.

The Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health to the adjoining Urban Districts of Purfleet and Tilbury, Medical Officer of Health to the surrounding Rural District of Orsett, and School Medical Inspector, Inspector of Midwives, and District Tuberculosis Officer for these districts under the Essex County Council.

The Deputy Medical Officer of Health is also Deputy Medical Officer of Health to the same districts, and School Medical Inspector and District Tuberculosis Officer to these districts under the Essex County Council.

The Assistant Medical Officer of Health is also School Medical Inspector and Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare under Essex County Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
QUARRY HILL,
GRAYS, ESSEX.

To the Chairman and Members of Grays Thurrock
Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Ninth Annual Report upon the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Urban District. Reviewed generally, 1933 has been an uneventful but satisfactory year in health matters.

VITAL STATISTICS.

A brief summary of the salient points is as follows. The population has increased by 250 persons to 18,780. The Birth Rate of 15·2 is above that for England and Wales but slightly below the figures for 1932. The Death Rate shows an appreciable reduction—from 11·5 to 9·4, compared with 12·3 for the country as a whole. The Infantile Mortality Rate of 20·9 is the lowest for five years, and less than one-third of the National Rate (64·0).

I do not think one may reasonably expect the Infantile Mortality Rate to remain so low over a long period, but it is comforting to know that over the last five years the average has been less than two-thirds of the general figures for the nation.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever recorded an increase of 53 cases, but as this included a small outbreak of mild type in a residential school, and coincided with a general increase in the disease throughout England the figures give no cause for alarm. Diphtheria continues at a satisfactorily low level, and Pneumonia showed a reduction of 21 cases.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The continued record of progress under this heading is very gratifying, and may be attributed almost entirely to the tact and perseverance of the Health Visitors. Statistics are of little use in indicating the efforts of the staff in this direction, and I feel, therefore, that they deserve special mention.

OFFICE ACCOMMODATION.

Most of the members are familiar with the conditions under which the Department is housed at present. Circumstances beyond the control of the Council have delayed the question of providing more satisfactory premises, but it is to be hoped that the matter will be re-considered when conditions become more favourable.

When I presented my Report for 1932, the ultimate fate of the Urban District was unsettled. It still is, and it is possible that even in 1935 I may still present a Report for an unaltered District. Nevertheless, in case the revision of boundaries ushers in shortly an area of different composition, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Council for past courtesies. I am indebted, once again, to the local medical practitioners, whose cheerful co-operation is one of the most valued assets of the Department. To those bodies and institutions who have so kindly supplied details for this Report I wish also to tender my thanks.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. T. G. BOUL, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area ...	....	....	1,382 acres.
Registrar-General's estimate of resident Population, 1933	....	..	18,780
No. of Inhabited Houses on Rate Books, 1933....			4,400
Rateable Value ...	....	....	£103,385
Product of One Penny Rate		....	£409

Grays is to a great extent the home of an industrial community, but of late years a colony of city workers has grown in the new housing areas. The occupations of the inhabitants are mostly as follows:

- (a) Workers in local industries (e.g., Margarine Works, Board Mills, Cement Factories).
- (b) Transport Workers.
- (c) Tradesmen and Clerical.
- (d) Seamen.

There is no evidence to show that any particular occupation exercises a deleterious influence upon the public health.

The air over the western portion of the town is on many occasions polluted with cement dust, and with a south-westerly wind this nuisance becomes seriously enhanced.

LIVE BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	.... 140	142	282
Illegitimate	.... 2	2	4
			} 286

Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident
population 15·2

	Male	Female	Total
STILLBIRTHS. ....	.... 9	1	10
Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births		....	33·8

			Male	Female	Total
DEATHS	....	....	107	70	177

Death Rate per 1000 of estimated resident
population 9·4

Deaths from Puerperal causes—	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births
From Sepsis	—	—
From other causes	—	—

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE:—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	....	20·9
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate live births		21·3
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births		Nil
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ....	...	Nil
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages) .....	...	Nil
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ....	....	1

The principal causes of death were as follows:—

	1933	1934
Cancer and Malignant Disease ...	30	36
Heart Disease	26	34
Senility	15	10
Tuberculosis (all forms)	14	15
Pneumonia (all forms)	9	14

These six headings accounted for 94 deaths, or 53·1% of the total. The most disturbing feature is, of course, the Cancer death rate, which shows only a very small reduction. This matter is dealt with more fully under the appropriate heading later in this Report.

The following tables have been supplied by the Registrar-General, with the exception of the line marked * in Table No 2.

TABLE 1. CIVILIANS ONLY. CAUSES OF DEATH IN GRAYS THURROCK U.D., 1933.

Causes of Death.			Male.		Female.
ALL CAUSES ...			107	...	70
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers	...	—	...	—
2	Measles	...	1	...	—
3	Scarlet fever	...	—	...	—
4	Whooping cough	...	—	...	—
5	Diphtheria	...	—	...	1
6	Influenza	...	3	...	3
7	Encephalitis lethargica	...	—	...	1
8	Cerebro-spinal fever	...	—	...	—
9	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	9	...	2
10	Other tuberculous diseases	...	—	...	3
11	Syphilis	...	—	...	—
12	General Paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	...	1	...	—
13	Cancer, malignant disease	...	21	...	9
14	Diabetes	...	—	...	3
15	Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c.	...	6	...	5
16	Heart disease	...	17	...	9
17	Aneurism	...	—	...	—
18	Other circulatory diseases	...	5	...	2
19	Bronchitis	...	5	...	4
20	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	7	...	2
21	Other respiratory diseases	...	—	...	—
22	Peptic Ulcer	...	1	...	—
23	Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)	...	1	...	—
24	Appendicitis	...	—	...	—
25	Cirrhosis of liver	...	—	...	—
26	Other diseases of liver, &c.	...	—	...	—
27	Other digestive diseases	...	4	...	2
28	Acute and chronic nephritis	...	3	...	—
29	Puerperal sepsis	...	—	...	—
30	Other puerperal causes	...	—	...	—
31	Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, &c.	...	2	...	1
32	Senility	...	6	...	9
33	Suicide	...	3	...	1
34	Other violence	...	6	...	2
35	Other defined diseases	...	5	...	11
36	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	1	...	—
37	Special Causes (included in No. 35 above)				
	Small-pox	...	—	...	—
	Poliomyelitis	...	—	...	—
	Polioencephalitis	...	—	...	1
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	Total	...	4	...	2
	Legitimate	...	4	...	2
	Illegitimate	...	—	...	—
LIVE BIRTHS ...	Total	...	142	...	144
	Legitimate	...	140	...	142
	Illegitimate	...	2	...	2
STILLBIRTHS ...	Total	...	9	...	1
	Legitimate	...	8	...	1
	Illegitimate	...	1	...	—

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY

DURING THE YEAR 1933. (PROVISIONAL FIGURES).

(The Mortality Rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the group of towns.)

	RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULATION.		ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.										RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS			
	Live Births.	Still-births	All Causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under Two years)	Total Deaths under One year	Certified by Registered Medical Practitioners	Inquest Cases	Certified by Coroner after P.M.	No Inquest	Uncertified Causes of Death
England and Wales ...	14.4	0.62	12.3	0.01	0.00	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.06	0.57	0.54	7.1	64	90.9	6.3	1.9	0.9	
118 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ...	14.4	0.67	12.2	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.02	0.06	0.08	0.55	0.49	9.4	67	91.0	6.0	2.5	0.5	
132 Smaller Towns (Estimated Resident Populations, 25,000-50,000 at Census 1931) ...	14.5	0.63	11.0	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.53	0.44	4.9	56	91.7	5.8	1.5	1.0	
London ...	13.2	0.45	12.2	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.08	0.08	0.51	0.58	11.6	59	88.3	6.3	5.4	0.0	
*Grays Thurrock ...	15.2	0.53	9.4	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.05	0.32	0.42	3.5	20.9	91.4	5.9	2.0	0.7	

The Maternal Mortality rates for England & Wales are as follows:

	Puerperal Sepsis.	Others.	Total.
per 1,000 Live Births ...	1.79	2.63	4.42
" " Total Births ...	1.71	2.52	4.23

COMPARISON OF VARIOUS STATISTICS.

Year.	No. of Births	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Infantile Mortality Rate.
1929	307	13·8	8·3	65·1
1930	314	14·4	7·5	22·2
1931	288	15·2	8·9	31·2
1932	305	16·5	11·5	65·5
1933	286	15·2	9·4	20·9

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(i.) PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

These are enumerated at the commencement of my Report.

(ii.) (a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The examination of pathological and bacteriological specimens is provided for at the Essex County Laboratories, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. 4, and during the year the following examinations have been undertaken :

Specimen.	No. Examined.
Diphtheria	199
Sputa	102
Typhoid	1
Ringworm	6
Miscellaneous	14
Total	322

(iii.) AMBULANCE FACILITIES. (a) *Infectious Disease.*

Three Motor Ambulances are maintained at the Isolation Hospital and are available immediately upon application at any hour, day or night.

1922, Ford 20 h.p. 1930, Austin 20 h.p.
1932, Morris 20 h.p. (This is kept solely for the
 use of Smallpox cases.)

(b) *Non-Infectious and Accident Cases.*

The St. John Ambulance Brigade, Grays Division, maintain two Motor Ambulances and various hand vehicles.

1928 Austin 20 h.p.

1930 Ford 23 h.p.

The hire charges are very moderate, and I am indebted to C. Simons, Esq., for the following details.

	No. of Cases.	Miles.
Road accidents	.... 82	1,151
Sick removals	.... 975	19,438

(c) MATERNITY PATIENTS.

These are removed when necessary by ambulances of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

(d) NURSING IN THE HOME.

Towards the end of the year a District Nursing Association was formed to serve Grays and Little Thurrock. The Association maintains one Nurse who does not, however, carry out midwifery duties. As the Association is still in its infancy it is impossible to give any statistics of value in this Report. There is no doubt, however, that this establishment fulfills a definite need in the district.

The excellent work of the 48th Nursing Division, St. John Ambulance Brigade, is again worthy of mention. This comprises a Lady Superintendent, two Lady Ambulance Officers, and a number of Ambulance Sisters. I am indebted to Mrs. A. H. Harvey, the Superintendent, for the following details of duties during 1933:

Motor Ambulance duties 905	} 2728
Home Comforts Centre	.... 445
Orthopædic Clinic	.... 259
Miscellaneous (including night visits)	1119	

The voluntary work of the Division should earn the appreciation of the Council and public alike.

The Hospital Home Comforts Committee, established in 1926, with the Medical Officer of Health as Chairman, has continued its useful work. Its object is to establish Centres whereat articles for use in a sick room may be obtained at nominal loan charges. The under-mentioned Centres have been established.

Quarry Hill, Grays. Open 2-4 p.m. daily.

The Rectory, Tilbury.

4 Morley Square, Chadwell-St.-Mary.

Council School, Stanford-le-Hope.

33 Second Avenue, West Thurrock.

29 Jarrah Cottages, Purfleet.

The Green, South Ockendon.

The Rectory, Orsett.

Church Institute, Aveley.

Articles Loaned, 1933 :

Air Beds	....	....	42
Air Rings	....	....	77
Air Pillows	....	....	27
Bedpans	....	....	168
Bed Rests	....	....	84
Bed Cradles	....	....	17
Crutches	....	....	58
Hot-water Bottles	....	....	19
Waterproof Sheets	....	....	28
Bronchitis Kettles	....	....	17
Invalid Chairs	....	....	28
Feeding Cups	....	....	9

The Committee's scheme for the supply of nurses, persons with some nursing experience, and Home Helps, to the homes of the sick, has proceeded satisfactorily. Owing to the demands for such assistance steps have been taken to increase the number of names on the register.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

(c)

	Address.	Hours.	Notes.
Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.	The Park.	Medical Officer, Tuesday, 2.30 p.m.; except 3rd Tuesday (see Ante-Natal Clinic). Health Visitor, Thursday, 2 p.m. (M.O.H. alternate Thursdays). Sat., 9.30-10.30, Sale of Foods only.	Provided by Grays U.D.C.
Ante-Natal Clinic	The Park.	3rd Tuesday and 1st Friday at 2 p.m.	Ditto
School Clinic.	Quarry Hill.	MINOR AILMENTS, Daily, 9.30-11 a.m. INSPECTION CLINIC, Wed. 9.30-11.30 a.m. *EYE CLINIC, Friday, 9-11.30 a.m.	The School Clinics are provided by the Essex County Council, the Medical Officer of Health, as School Inspector, supervising the work of the Clinics.
Dental Clinic.	The Park.	DENTAL CLINIC. (a) Extractions, Tuesday, 9.30 a.m. (b) Conservative Treatment. *Thursday, 9.30 a.m.	
Orthopædic Clinic. " After-Care Clinic	Quarry Hill.	*By arrangement. Tues., Wed. and Fri., at 2 p.m.	Grays & Tilbury Urban District Councils, Orsett Rural District, and Essex County Council.
Diphtheria Immunisation	The Park.	*2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 2 p.m.	Grays U.D.C.
Tuberculosis	59 London Road.	Monday, 4-6 p.m. Thursday, 10-12 noon.	The Dispensary is provided by the E.C.C., the M.O.H. as Tuberculosis Officer supervising the work of the Dispensary.
Venereal Disease	22 Cobham Street, Gravesend.	*Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. (Men) Thursday, 5 p.m. to 6.15 p.m. " *Tuesday, 1 p.m. to 2.15 p.m. (Women) Thursday, 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. "	Provided by Kent County Council. Essex patients are treated by agreement.

* Patients attend these Clinics by appointment.

Application should be made to any member of the Public Health Staff.

HOSPITALS.

(a) GENERAL.

(1) *Seamen's Hospital, Tilbury.*

Men	-	-	52 beds.
Women	-	-	24 „
Children	-	-	16 „

No. of In-patients, 1933	-	-	1215
„ Out-patients	-	-	4278
„ Major operations performed	-	-	271
„ Minor „ „	-	-	659

The authorities and staff of the hospital display a pleasing co-operation with this Department.

(2) *Orsett Public (Assistance) Institution.*

General Medical	-	-	103 beds.
General Surgical	-	-	47 „
Tuberculosis	-	-	18 „
Children	-	-	20 „
Maternity	-	-	7 „
Mental (observation)	-	-	5 „

(b) *Infectious Diseases.*

The following establishments are maintained by Orsett Joint Hospital Board, of which Grays is a constituent authority.

(1) Isolation Hospital, Stifford Long Lane, Grays. Accommodation, 96 beds. An Operating Theatre comprising a main room, 18ft. by 12ft., plus an annexe, were completed during the year at an approximate cost of £500.

(2) Smallpox Hospital, Stifford Long Lane, Grays. Accommodation, 22 beds.

The present hospital accommodation has been found adequate for the needs of the district. Many people attend the various metropolitan hospitals, with whom the Department maintain reciprocal agreements with regard the following-up of treatment, &c.

3. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

(i.) MIDWIVES.

Four Midwives practice within the Urban District, but they are not subsidised or employed by the Local Authority.

During 1933, the Council agreed to re-imburse each Midwife to the extent of 10/- in respect of every case in which the Local Authority took over the financial responsibility for treatment, or made arrangements for hospital admission.

MATERNITY IN-PATIENT ACCOMMODATION.

Complete arrangements for the hospital treatment of maternity cases are now available. Cases of expected normal delivery in poor financial circumstances or living under unsuitable conditions may be admitted to Orsett Public Assistance Institution, to the special maternity wards. The charge is £2 2s. 0d. per week, plus ambulance charges. Cases of complicated labour or post-natal difficulties are admitted upon application to Queen Mary's Hospital, Stratford, E.15. The cost is £3 3s. 0d. per week, plus ambulance charges. Cases of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia are admitted to special wards at Oldchurch (Public Assistance) Hospital, Romford, or to Chelmsford Public Assistance Institution. The cost to the Local Authority is 10/- per day, plus ambulance charges. In every case the Council recover from the patients amounts in proportion to their financial circumstances.

The number of patients so admitted during 1933 was as follows :

Orsett Institution	-	-	1
Queen Mary's Hospital, Stratford	-	-	6
Chelmsford Institution	-	-	1
Total cost of treatment	-	£32	8s. 0d.
Recoverable from patients		£20	14s. 0d.

Sterilised Maternity Outfits have been supplied through the Welfare Centre for some years past, while the Council also supply Home Helps to patients in certain circumstances.

HEALTH VISITING.

Visits paid by Health Visitors :

To infants under 1 year :

(a) First visits	-	-	260
(b) Re-visits	-	-	334
To infants, 1-5 years	-	-	1184
			<hr/> 1778

The number of visits paid to children at home has decreased somewhat from the previous year, but this is more than compensated for by the increased attendances at the Welfare Centre (see below).

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.

Sessions held	....	....	94
Attendances by children :			
(i.) Under 1 year	....	....	3203
(ii.) 1-5 years	...	....	2545
			<hr/> 5748

Increase over 1932: 1823, or approximately 46%

The rapid growth of this branch of the work during the past few years is due chiefly to the unflagging efforts of the Health Visitors.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC :

Sessions held	....	...	17
No. of expectant mothers on books	....		116
Total attendances made	....	....	340
Visits to expectant mothers		....	33

There are signs that further sessions will be required during 1934 for this work, and the matter has already received attention.

Dental Treatment for Expectant and Nursing Mothers.

Facilities exist for treatment under this heading. A number of patients were treated during the year, and part of the cost recovered from them.

<i>Milk (Mothers' and Children's Order), 1921.</i>	1933.
Total value of milk supplied	£460 1s. 7d.
Cost of Milk supplied free of charge...	£69 8s. 1d.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS (Local Records).

Total number of Births, including Stillbirths	283
Notified by Medical Practitioners	142
Notified by Certified Midwives	141
Total Births Registered ...	283
Total Stillbirths ...	5

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION—Section 1, Children Act, 1908. Children and Young Persons' Act, 1932.

Number of Foster Mothers in the area	4
Number of Infants registered	4
Total visits paid by Health Visitors during the year .	23

The conditions with regard to the above are quite satisfactory. No prosecutions have been undertaken or warnings given during the year under review.

HEALTH VISITORS.

As will be seen from the table at the front of this report no changes in the staff of Health Visitors have occurred during the year.

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.

I am indebted to the above for the following statistics in regard to the work of the Society, and particularly to Inspector W. Clare for his unfailing co-operation.

Total cases reported	51
Allegations found to be true	49

Action taken.

Warnings issued	....	....	49
No action	....	....	2
Supervision visits paid	....	....	143

Classification of cases.

Neglect	....	....	40
Ill-treatment and assault	..	....	5
Advice	....	....	4
Miscellaneous	....	....	2

Analysis of cases reported.

By general public	....	....	16
„ M.O.H. and School Officials	....	....	28
„ Police	....	....	2
„ Other Officials	....	....	4
„ Society's Inspector	....	....	1

Children affected—Male	....	78
Female ^a	....	76

Classification of Ages.

Under 1 year	....	....	6
1 - 2 years	....	....	13
2 - 3	....	....	11
3 - 4	....	....	13
4 - 5	....	....	10
5 - 6	....	....	11
6 - 7	....	....	11
7 - 8	....	....	9
8 - 9	....	....	13
9 - 10	....	....	11
10 - 11	....	....	10
11 - 12	....	....	12
Over 12	....	....	24

ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT.

The Orthopædic Scheme is carried out in conjunction with the Urban District of Tilbury, the Rural District of Orsett, and the Essex County Council. The Orthopædic Surgeon appointed, Mr. B. Whitchurch Howell, F.R.C.S., visits the district at frequent intervals. After-care is carried out by an Orthopædic Masseuse three times weekly, at a specially equipped Clinic in Grays.

Massage, after-care, remedial exercises, &c., are provided at the After-care Clinic and cases requiring hospital treatment are sent by the Local Authority or, in the case of children over the age of 5 years, by the County Council, to the Queen's Hospital, Hackney Road, London, E., the Cheyne Hospital, Chelsea, or to Brookfield Hospital, Walthamstow.

ORTHOPÆDIC ASCERTAINMENT CLINIC.

	County	Grays.	Tilbury.	Orsett.	Total.
No. of cases on Register 1/1/33	238	18	62	17	335
„ „ „ 31/12/33	269	29	74	17	389
No. Discharged as cured ...	27	14	18	5	64
„ of New Cases reported ...	58	25	30	5	118
„ of Cases treated in Hospital	12	1	4	1	18

ORTHOPÆDIC AFTER-CARE CLINIC.

	County.	Grays.	Tilbury.	Orsett.	Total.
No. of Cases on Register, 1/1/33	176	23	63	15	277
„ „ „ 31/12/33	300	36	96	46	478
„ „ Discharged as cured	26	4	8	2	40
„ „ „ other reasons	18	3	16	2	39
„ New Cases during year ...	168	20	57	35	280
„ Attendances during year ...	931	135	237	130	1433

NATURE OF TREATMENT RECEIVED.

	County	Grays.	Tilbury.	Orsett.	Total.
Exercises ...	28	—	—	—	28
Massage & Muscle Re-education	3	—	—	—	3
Wedges and After-care ...	186	32	90	40	348
Breathing Exercises ...	8	1	—	—	9
Supervision of Appliances...	27	4	8	4	43

ANNUAL REPORT

*of the School Medical Inspector for the Orsett District
for the year ending 31st December, 1933.*

1933 was a year of steady progress in all branches of School Medical Work. One school remained un-inspected at the close of the year owing to alterations in the personnel of the department, but arrangements have been made for it to receive priority early in 1934. The accommodation in the schools of the area totals 12,593 places, the number on the registers, 11,736, and the average daily attendance 10,449. Some of the infants' schools suffered from epidemics of measles and chicken-pox, and Aveley school was closed for five days in January, 1933, owing to influenza. In no other instance was closure deemed necessary.

STAFF.

Dr. Maude Bennett resigned in May, after many years of good service, and was succeeded by Dr. A. R. Park. Owing to the unfortunate illness of Dr. Ive it was found impossible to complete the full programme of inspections for a few weeks, but with the kind co-operation of Dr. F. A. Nelson, the arrears which otherwise would have accrued were not permitted to become too big. Dr. C. Ive resigned upon the 31st December, and will be succeeded by Dr. K. N. Mawson.

SCHOOL ACCOMMODATION.

My remarks made in 1932 about overcrowding in certain schools in Tilbury still hold good. Its attendant evils, bad lighting and ventilation, contribute to a lowering of general physique, causing eyestrain, bad stance and similar defects.

CLINICS.

Three years ago only two Clinics existed for the entire area, i.e., in Grays and Tilbury. Since that time Clinics have been provided at Laindon for children in the Langdon Hills area, and at Stanford-le-Hope for

patients in the eastern part of the district. I am pleased to report that further extensions are now being considered in the form of premises at Aveley, to serve the Purfleet and Aveley areas. This is a step in the right direction. People in the outlying parts have the same right to the facilities of the School Medical Service as those in Grays or Tilbury, but many of them cannot afford to pay travelling expenses frequently to the latter. When, however, the matter is settled every area will be served by properly equipped Clinics.

SPECIAL BRANCHES OF SCHOOL MEDICAL WORK.

These include the Open-Air School, the Sight-Saving (Myope) Class, and the Special School for mentally retarded children. In the light of modern activities they may all be regarded as indispensable, and detailed reports upon their work will be found in this Report.

TONSILS AND ADENOIDS CLINICS.

Number of cases operated upon:—

1930	....	....	92
1931	....	....	151
1932	....	....	210
1933	....	...	81

In addition letters of recommendation for treatment in cases of necessity were issued to approximately 27 families. Once more I thank Drs. Barrow and Hawes, and the staff of the Seamen's Hospital, Tilbury, for their kind assistance throughout the year.

The decrease in the number of applications for operation coincided with the pronouncement of the Chief Medical Officer to the Board of Education upon the lack of necessity in many instances for this operation, which undoubtedly had great influence upon public opinion. Needless to say, no child is recommended for operation unless it is definitely in need of such treatment.

SIGHT SAVING (MYOPE) CLASS.

This is situated in Quarry Hill School, Grays, and the following is a record of its work during 1933:

	Boys.	Girls.
No. on register at 1st Jan., 1933	10	6
„ admitted during the year	2	6
„ discharged „ „ „	5	2
„ on register at 31/12/33	7	10

Reasons for Discharge.

Attained school-leaving age	4	—
Left the district	1	1
Transferred to special school	—	1

Classification of Visional Defects.

High Myopia	3	3
Myopic Astigmatism	3	1
High Myopia, Astigmatism and Nystagmus	1	—
Congenital Cataract	1	—
Congenital dislocation of both lenses	—	2
Myopia and Strabismus	—	1
Mixed Astigmatism, Strabismus and Corneal Opacities	—	1
Cataract	1	—
Hypermetropia	—	1

The usefulness of the Class for this type of child is beyond dispute, and credit is due to the teacher in charge for her interest in each individual case. The Class has been equipped with special pens and ink giving extra bold writing to facilitate reading, together with text-books printed in very large clear type. These are of American origin, and I have to repeat my comment of two years ago, that it is regrettable that English publishers do not appear to cater for this branch of the educational system.

SCHOOL SPRAY BATHS.

These have been in constant use, especially at Tilbury, where the attendances have shown a large increase over 1932.

	1931	1932	1933
Attendances at Grays Baths	2664	2989	3594
„ Tilbury Baths	4601	5611	9377

MINOR AILMENT TREATMENT CLINICS.

		Grays	Tilbury	Stanford- le-Hope
No. of individual children treated...	1931	1245	1261	—
	...1932	1233	2744	114
	...1933	1281	2171	245
Total attendances made ...	...1931	3332	3697	—
	...1932	3035	4394	160
	...1933	3166	4846	385

EYE CLINIC.

The work of this Clinic tends to increase and, as in 1932, the waiting list has frequently exceeded one hundred cases. In addition to the weekly routine Clinics many extra sessions were held, and I am indebted to Drs. C. Ive and F. A. Nelson for their efforts in this direction.

		Refractions.	Glasses Advised.
1930	....	251	133
1931	....	283	232
1932	....	369	295
1933	....	427	349

DENTAL TREATMENT.

Considerable improvements have been effected in the arrangements for the Dental Clinics. The Clinic was removed during the year from the Minor Ailment Treatment Centre at Quarry Hill, Grays, to more commodious premises at the Grays U.D.C. Welfare Centre, and for the first time the services of two surgeons have been available for a complete year.

DENTAL INSPECTIONS.

School.	Inspected.	Age Groups		Offered Treatment.
		5-10	10-14	
Stanford-le-Hope	.... 156	114	42	120
East Thurrock	.... 353	286	67	270
Stifford Mixed	.... 421	193	228	258
Coryton	.... 47	32	15	39
Corringham	.... 220	142	78	172
Stanford-le-Hope Infants.	59	59	—	59
East Thurrock Infants	173	173	—	106
Orsett Infants	.... 48	48	—	39
Lansdowne Road	.... 873	649	224	619
West Thurrock	.... 390	245	145	272
South Ockendon	.... 203	125	78	167
Bulphan	.... 62	39	23	49
West Thurrock Girls	.. 93	30	63	62
North Ockendon	.... 54	24	30	43
St. Chad's Infants	.... 176	176	—	110
Tilbury R.C. Junr.	.... 206	204	2	171
ditto Senr.	.... 195	33	162	108
Bridge Road	.... 220	220	—	104
Horndon-on-the Hill...	137	77	60	91
Lansdowne Road	... 459	196	263	321
Quarry Hill	... 285	285	—	152
Aveley	.... 222	178	44	123
St. Chad's	.... 650	275	375	451
Bridge Road	... 282	84	198	187
	<u>5984</u>	<u>3887</u>	<u>2097</u>	<u>4093</u>

		1931	1932	1933
Children treated	....	1240	1443	2030
Total attendances paid by above		1365	1544	2135
Extractions (a) Temporary	....	2704	2653	3476
(b) Permanent	....	469	582	764
Fillings (a) Temporary	....	91	30	36
(b) Permanent	....	138	277	727
Gas cases	....	934	1000	1413
Local Anæsthetics	....	—	144	258
Operations	....	28	70	69

OPEN-AIR SCHOOL.

No. of places in the School	....	60
„ children admitted during 1933	....	49*
„ „ discharged „ „	....	45

* Excludes 10 re-admissions.

Admissions recommended—

By School Medical Inspectors	...	32
„ Tuberculosis Officer	....	16
„ Hospital	....	1

	BOYS.	GIRLS.
Average increase in height during the year	2 $\frac{1}{4}$ in.	2 $\frac{1}{4}$ in.
Highest „ „ „ „ „	3 $\frac{1}{8}$ „	3 „
Average increase in weight during the year	4 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.	7 lbs.
Highest „ „ „ „ „	8 $\frac{3}{4}$ „	13 $\frac{5}{8}$ „

As in 1932, it will be observed that the girls appear to have responded to the treatment better than the boys. In view of the waiting list for admission which always exists at this school the question of increasing the accommodation was considered during the year. Plans were prepared for the provision of 30 extra places, and it is anticipated that work on the extensions will be started in 1934.

Analysis of the records of each child's progress at the school proves beyond all doubt that the system of education, rest and nourishment set out in the curriculum is efficient and calculated to give the maximum results. I have again to refer to the valuable work of the staff of the school, especially the Head Teacher, to whose enthusiastic co-operation much of the success of the establishment is due.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

Adoptive Acts, Bye-Laws and Regulations, relative to Public Health in force in the district:—

P.H. Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890. Parts 2, 3, 4 & 5.
Adopted 1st January, 1891.

I.D. (Notification) Act, 1889.
Adopted 9th October, 1890.

I.D. (Prevention) Act, 1890.
Adopted 1st January, 1891.

P.H. Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907.
Part 2 other than Sec. 26.
Part 3 other than Sec. 50.
Part 4, Sections 52, 55, 56, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63,
Part 6. [64, 65 and 66.
Part 10, Sec. 93.
Adopted 1908.

P.H. Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907, Section 50.
Adopted May, 1928.

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

Slaughter Houses. June 23rd, 1887.

Common Lodging Houses. June 23rd, 1887.

Nuisances. September 22nd, 1892.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops. July 13th, 1889.

Additional Cowsheds and Milkshops. May 11th, 1905.

Tents, Vans and Sheds. December 22nd, 1910.

New Streets and Buildings. July 30th, 1896.

New Streets and Buildings. November 21st, 1913.

Slaughter Houses. July 26th, 1927.

Nuisances.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) WATER.—The facilities have been described in my Report for previous years. Copies of three laboratory reports on samples of ordinary drinking water from the main supply have been provided for the information of this Department by the South Essex Water Works Company. These indicate that the water, although containing up to 26 degrees of hardness, is constant in character and free from contamination.

(ii.) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—The greater part of the district is efficiently sewered. I am indebted to the Works Manager of the Thurrock, Grays and Tilbury Joint Sewerage Board for the following particulars.

The Works are situated $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles north-east of Tilbury Station, and consist of Sewage Disposal Works, with Sedimentation Tanks and Circular Revolving Distributors on Bacterial beds.

Total volume of sewage pumped :

1929	....	474,012,000	gallons
1930	....	468,993,000	„
1931	...	461,529,500	„
1932	....	452,451,000	„
1933	....	466,862,000	„

Average daily flow, 1,279,074 gallons.

LODGE ESTATE.

Conditions in this area are very much improved. The unmade roads, with very few exceptions, have been made up and are now properly surfaced, drained and sewered. The number of cesspools estimated to exist at the end of 1933 was approximately six.

2. RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Apart from the river Thames, upon the north bank of which the town of Grays is situate, there are no rivers in the area.

3. (i.) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Every house in the district is supplied with a proper closet and flushing apparatus.

(ii.) Public cleansing has been, as in the past, carried out by direct labour. Every house is supplied with a portable galvanised dustbin of approved type. All cases of defective dustbins are reported to the Sanitary Inspector on cards provided for that purpose. The collection of household refuse is weekly, by means of covered horse-drawn and motor vehicles, and I am indebted to the Engineer and Surveyor for the following details :—

Amount of refuse collected during 1933	-	3657 tons.
Cost of collection	-	£1749 16s. 1d.
Cost of disposal	-	£1245 10s. 0d.
Cost per head of population	-	3/2 $\frac{1}{4}$

The refuse is dealt with by incineration at the Council's destructor, and by tipping.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Visits and Inspections.				No.
Dwelling Houses	....	....	...	530
Disinfections	....	....	....	115
Factories	....	....	....	29
Workshops	...	....	...	26
Schools	....	....	....	14
Dairies and Milkshops	....	....	....	142
Slaughterhouses	....	....	....	812
Shops (including Butchers)	....	....	...	444
Bakehouses	....	....	....	57
Common Lodging Houses	....	....	....	13
Fish Shops (including fried-fish shops)	....	....	...	314
Market	....	....	...	301
Tents, Vans, Sheds, &c.	...	....	....	13
Re Abatement of Nuisances	....	....	....	536
Miscellaneous	....	...	....	189
Total				<u>3,535</u>

NOTICES SERVED.

Nature of Defects.	INFORMAL.		STATUTORY.		Outstand- ing.
	Served.	Completed	Served.	Completed	
Renew dustbins	144	144	...	...	...
Disinfections ...	66	66	...	...	...
Slaughterhouses	1	1	...	...	...
Drainage Defects	127	127	...	...	...
Tents, Vans, Sheds, &c.	1	1	...	...	...
Defective W.C.'s	20	20	...	...	...
Overcrowding ...	3	3	...	...	...
Factories ...	3	3	...	...	...
Workshops ...	5	5	...	...	...
Verminous Premises	16	16	...	...	...
To Remove Refuse	16	16	...	...	...
Defective Yard Paving	15	15	...	...	...
" Roofs	44	44	...	...	...
" Gutters	46	46	...	...	...
Internal dilapidations	124	117	7	7	...
Miscellaneous complaints	74	73	1	...	1
	705	697	8	7	1

(iv.) SMOKE ABATEMENT.

A few complaints of excessive smoke from factory chimneys were received during the year, and action has been taken to remedy the nuisance.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

(a) **INSPECTIONS OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES** *including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.*

Premises. 1	In- spections 2	Written Notices 3	Occupiers Prose- cuted 4
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	29	3	—
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	26	5	—
Workshops (Other than Outworkers premises)	41	6	—
Total	96	14	—

(b) **DEFECTS FOUND** *in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.*

Particulars. 1	Number of Defects.			Number of Offences in respect of which Prosecu- tions were Instituted 5
	Found. 2	Rem- edied 3	Referred to H.M. Inspector 4	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts —</i>				
Want of cleanliness	7	7	—	—
Want of ventilation	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors ...	1	1	—	—
Other nuisances	5	5	—	—
Sanitary accommodation—				
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective ...	—	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—
<i>Offences under Factory & Workshops Acts—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s.101)....	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	—	—	—	—
(Excluding offences relating to outwork, and offences under the Sections men- tioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921]				
Total	14	14	—	—

Number of Factories on Register	....	37
„ „ Workshops on Register	....	44

HOUSING.

The structural state of most of the houses in the Urban District is satisfactory, except in the older part of the town where a number of individual unfit houses are being dealt with gradually under the Housing Act. Overcrowding is only infrequently met, but there is a great deal of sub-letting in premises unsuitable for the purpose. A common practice amongst householders is to sub-let the first-floor rooms. Not being intended for this purpose they lack proper cooking arrangements, sink, and water supply, and all rubbish must be taken through the house to the dust-bin. Apart from the shortage of housing accommodation, sub-letting is difficult to stamp out because it receives the support of both the tenant and sub-tenant. The former receives a welcome contribution towards her rent, while the latter is invariably in receipt of a small income, and unable to afford the rent of a Council house.

As a remedy I can only repeat the truism that the real solution to housing difficulties in a working-class area is the provision of premises at an inclusive rental of 10/- per week or under.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)			
	....	....	530
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose			
	..	....	... 1590
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ...			
		....	173
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose			
	....	....	.... 173

- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation —
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 173

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 173

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(A) *Proceedings under Secs. 17, 18 & 23 of the Housing Act, 1930.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 11

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :

(a) By Owners 11

(b) By Local Authorities, in default of owners —

(B) *Proceedings under Public Health Acts*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied —

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :

(a) By Owners ... —

(b) By Local Authorities in default of Owners —

(C) *Proceedings under Secs. 19 & 21 of the Housing Act, 1930.*

- | | | |
|---|------|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | .... | — |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | .... | — |

(D) *Proceedings under Sec. 20 of the Housing Act, 1930.*

- | | | | |
|---|------|------|---|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made | .... | .... | — |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | .... |  | — |

SPECIAL CLASSES OF PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS SUBJECT TO CONTROL BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

HOUSES-LET-IN-LODGINGS.—There are within the Urban District a number of premises which might be regarded as houses-let-in-lodgings, but these conditions are not widespread. The question of the adoption of byelaws has been considered and deferred pending the revision of boundaries.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—There is one such establishment, to which 13 visits were paid during the year. It contains accommodation for 50 men, and was maintained satisfactorily.

TENTS, VANS, SHEDS AND SIMILAR STRUCTURES.—There are very few premises of this type in the area. They are under constant supervision and no complaints have been received.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.—There are no byelaws under this heading, although the large number of fried-fish shops suggests that some measure of control is desirable.

UNDERGROUND SLEEPING ROOMS.—There are no premises of this description in the district.

OTHER SANITARY CONDITIONS REQUIRING NOTICE.

(a) DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD.

(b) MORTUARY.

The facilities under these headings were set out in my Report for 1932, and no changes have taken place. The present provisions are adequate for the needs of the district.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 & 1928.—There are no establishments within the Urban District to which these Acts apply.

SCHOOLS.—The Sanitary accommodation and condition of some of the older schools is capable of improvement, but the general standard is satisfactory.

CLEANSING OF VERMINOUS PERSONS.—No action has been found necessary during the year.

PREVALENCE OF VERMIN.—The Sanitary Inspector investigates all complaints concerning the presence in houses, &c., of rats and mice. Advice is given to the tenants, and poisonous baits issued.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

1. MILK SUPPLY.

Number of retailers on register :—

Grade "A" (T.T.) milk	....	2
Certified milk	....	1
Grade "A" milk	....	9*
Ungraded milk....	....	5

* (Includes supplementary licenses.)

Number of premises registered :—

Dairies	....	....	....	15
Milkshops	....	....	....	2

The following samples of milk were submitted to Laboratory examination during the year :—

No.	Date.	Bacterial Count per 1 c.c.	B. Coli present in c.c.
1	2nd March	165,000	0·01
2	"	280,000	0·001
3	"	130,000	0·01
4	10th July	64,000	0·1
5	"	48,000	0·01
6	"	106,000	0·01
7	12th December	37,000	Absent in 1 c.c.
8	"	19,000	ditto
9	"	28,000	ditto
10	"	15,000	ditto
11	"	110,000	0·001
12	"	6,200	Absent in 1 c.c.

Nos. 12, 10, 8, 9, 7 are very good results indeed. Nos. 4, 5, are satisfactory also. Nos. 2, 11 are unsatisfactory insofar as the B. Coli count is rather higher than is desirable. Nos. 1 & 6 were taken from the same supply. Nos. 2 & 7 were taken from the same supply; the improvement in the second sample is very noticeable. Nos. 3 and 10 were taken from the same supply. Here, also, the second sample provides an improved result.

Of the total samples taken 60% were of a high standard of cleanliness, 23% were satisfactory, and 17% were capable of great improvement.

2. MEAT. Number of Slaughterhouses—

(a) Registered	....	....	3
(b) Licensed	....	....	2

Animals Slaughtered, 1933—

Beasts	....	....	829
Sheep	....	....	2547
Swine	....	....	2791
Calves	....	....	322
Lambs	....	....	186

Unsound Food Surrendered—

Beef	....	....	598 lbs.
Pork	....	....	354 „
Mutton	....	....	41 „
Fish	....	....	784 „
Rabbits	....	....	156 „
Turkeys	....	....	33
Geese	....	....	2
Prawns	....	....	16 lbs.
Lobster	....	....	8 „
Corned Beef	....	....	7 „
Ox livers	....	....	30
Sweets	....	....	691 lbs.

BAKEHOUSES. Number on Register—

(a) Factory Bakehouses	....	5
(b) Workshop ditto	....	2

These are maintained in a satisfactory condition.

C. ADULTERATION.

The Essex County Council is the Authority under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928; the Artificial Cream Act, 1929; the Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927, the Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927, and the Public Health (Preservatives, &c. in Food) Regulations 1925 and 1927.

D. CHEMICAL & BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

This is carried out at the instance of the County Council by the Counties Public Health Laboratories, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4.

E. NUTRITION.

Periodical articles upon diet, nourishment, and general health are contributed to the local Press by the Medical Officer of Health.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during 1933

DISEASE.	Total Cases	Removed to Hospital	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever 	67	57	1
Diphtheria 	19	19	1
Pneumonia 	13	—	9
Erysipelas 	5	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia 	4	3	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	3	3	—
Polio-Encephalitis 	2	2	1
	113	84	12

ANALYSIS OF AGE GROUPS.

DISEASE.	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 up	Total
Scarlet Fever	...	1	3	2	10	36	9	4	...	2	...	...	...	...	67
Diphtheria	1	...	2	1	...	8	5	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	19
Pneumonia	...	...	1	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	4	...	2	3	13
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	1	1	5
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	4
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
	1	1	6	3	10	47	18	6	1	8	4	1	3	4	113

SCARLET FEVER.—There was an increase of 53 cases over 1932, when the number of notifications, however, was remarkably low. There was one minor outbreak of eight cases in an L.C.C. Children's Homes, but upon the removal of all definite cases and the isolation of certain suspected "carriers," it came to an end. A type of the disease which is very difficult to detect has made its appearance in the neighbourhood during the past year. Most of the recognised symptoms are absent in a patient, and it is customary, before making a definite diagnosis, to swab it for the presence or otherwise of hæmolytic streptococci, type S.F.42. Where a patient giving a positive swab does not develop Scarlet Fever it is regarded as a "carrier" and isolated until at least two negative laboratory reports are obtained. Practical experience indicates that this is one of the most reliable methods of aborting an outbreak. No treatment for immunization against Scarlet Fever is operative in the district.

DIPHTHERIA.—There were two fewer cases of this disease than in the previous year, and there are no special circumstances calling for comment.

ANTI-TOXIN.—This is available upon application to the Department during office hours, and at the Police Station, Grays, at any hour of the night. Thanks are due to the Superintendent of Police and his staff for their willing co-operation in this matter.

IMMUNIZATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.—Schick treatment was introduced in Grays in July, 1932, and treatment clinics have continued since that date. Thanks to the efforts of the Health Visitors the system is increasing daily in popularity, and there is a long waiting list of applicants for treatment. There is still considerable misunderstanding of the objects of diphtheria immunization amongst the public, and indeed, the

occurrence of diphtheria amongst *untreated* children is sometimes accepted by the lay public as an indictment of the scheme. The object of diphtheria immunization is to produce a juvenile population possessing natural immunity from the disease. This requires several years, and must receive support from a very large number of families to be of practical use. To immunise 500 children out of a school and infant population of, say, 5,000, would produce very little effect upon the incidence of diphtheria.

In my Report for 1932 I mentioned the desirability for central legislation to control the procedure of diphtheria immunization, owing to the varying methods of so-called Schick treatment which have come to my notice. It is unnecessary to repeat details of the system in operation at the local Clinic, except to say that no child can be regarded as immunized unless the parents have received a certificate to that effect, signed by the Medical Officer of Health. It is still my emphatic opinion that in the absence of some definite legal standards, including details of treatment which *must* be performed before a certificate of immunization is issued, and the absolute necessity for such a certificate, diphtheria immunization, maladministered, is likely to produce abundant evidence for its opponents.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNIZATION CLINIC, 1933.

No. of clinics held	....	....	39
Total attendances of children	....	....	572
No. receiving preliminary Schick test	..		91
„ not receiving ditto	....	....	30
„ found negative upon preliminary Schick test			28
„ found positive upon preliminary Schick test			62
„ receiving immunizing injections	....		123
„ re-Schicked after immunizing treatment:			
(a) found negative	....	....	120
(b) found positive, and referred for further treatment	....	....	Nil
„ of Certificates of Immunity issued	....		120

MEASLES.—In the preceding year the Joint Hospital Board agreed to admit severe cases of Measles. I am of opinion that this facility should be continued.

CANCER.—This remains as one of the most fatal diseases in the country, and the public continue to contribute to a high mortality rate by their unwillingness to seek medical advice until too late. Cancer is curable by operative treatment, but the disease must be taken in the *very early* stages. Most cancer operations fail to produce anything but temporary benefit because patients delay far too long before obtaining skilled attention.

Ages at Death.				Male.	Female.
25-30	years	....	....	2	—
30-35	„	....	....	—	—
35-40	„	....	...	—	—
40-45	„	....	....	—	—
45-50	„	....	....	—	1
50-55	„	....	....	3	—
55-60	„	....	...	2	1
60-65	„	....	....	3	3
65-70	„	....	....	2	3
70-75	„	....	....	5	2
75-80	„	....	....	—	2
80-85	„	....	....	1	—
				—	—
				18	12
				—	—

It will be observed, however, that 70% of the deaths occurred in persons over the age of 60 years.

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1933. LOCAL RECORDS.

Age Groups.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
1— 5 years	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
5—15 "	...	...	1	3	...	1	...	...
15—25 "	3	3	...	1	1	1	1	...
25—35 "	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
35—45 "	4 ^k	...	...	...	2*	...	...	...
45—55 "	4	2	...	...	3	...	...	...
55—65 "	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
65 years upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	16*	5	3	4	9*	2	1	...

* Indicates one unnotified case.

The efficiency of notification is satisfactory, but there is evidence that many patients do not seek treatment until the disease is too far advanced to respond.

1 patient died less than 1 month after notification.

1	„	„	„	3 months	„	„
2	„	„	„	9	„	„
1	„	„	„	15	„	„

(c) PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925, AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, Sec. 62.

No action has been taken under the above during the year under review.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The Essex County Council have an agreement with the Kent County Council (see table of Clinics). Every inducement is offered to patients to attend this clinic. The fares, in necessitous cases, are paid by the County Council. I am indebted to Dr. R. Erskine Gray for the following statistics relating to the work of the Clinic during 1932. These figures continue to show that the problem of Venereal Disease is of greater importance than many other ills which receive far more attention from the Press and the public.

Total Received Treatment during year :

		Male	Female	Total
Syphilis	....	217	96	313
Soft Chancre	....	14	—	14
Gonorrhœa	....	249	77	326
Non-Venereal	....	35	29	64
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Total	515	202	717
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

New Patients :

Syphilis	....	....	58	21	79
Soft Chancre	....	....	12	—	12
Gonorrhœa	....	....	111	37	148
Non-Venereal	....	....	28	27	55
Total			209	85	294
Re-admissions	....	....	47	20	67
Grand Total			256	105	361

New Patients by Areas :

	Gravesend	Rest of Kent	Essex	Other Areas	Total
Syphilis	.... 24	7	26	22	79
Soft Chancre....	5	—	6	1	12
Gonorrhœa	67	26	34	21	148
Non-Venereal	19	15	19	2	55
Total	115	48	85	46	294

Attendances :

	Male	Female	Total
For Medical Officer	.... 3261	2019	5280
For Intermediate Treatment	4202	2174	6376
Total	7463	4193	11656

Injections (Syphilis cases) :

Neo-Arsphenamines	....	1125
Tryparsamide	....	102
Total Arsenic	....	1227
Bismuth	....	1277
Mercury	....	472
Total	....	2976

Attendances (by Areas) :

Laboratory Specimens.

Kent	....	8380
Essex	....	3079
Others	....	197

For Syphilis	....	339
For Gonorrhœa	....	567

Total		<u>11656</u>
-------	--	--------------

		<u>906</u>
--	--	------------

Discharged Cured :

			Male	Female	Total
Syphilis	....	....	23	9	32
Soft Chancre	....	....	10	—	10
Gonorrhœa	....	....	62	27	89
Non-Venereal	....	....	34	24	59
Total			<u>129</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>190</u>

Defaulted before final test of cure :

			Male	Female	Total
Syphilis	...	....	3	2	5
Gonorrhœa	....	....	10	1	11
Defaulted before completion of Treatment :					
Syphilis	....	....	32	12	44
Soft Chancre	....	....	1	—	1
Gonorrhœa	....	....	11	21	32
Total			<u>57</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>93</u>
Transferred after treatment			71	13	84

